

Royersford, PA — It is the pinnacle of achievement for a young man; the recognition of many years of commitment to community, family and a higher standard of citizenship. It is the Eagle Scout Award, and today it was presented to 15-year-old David R. Motsek of Collegeville. — Standing with David to celebrate this honor at the Grace Lutheran Church in Royersford were his family, the leadership of Boy Scouts of America Troop # 406, and Congressman Joe Sestak (D-PA).

"During my 31 years in the Navy, I came to understand the importance of service and the meaning of giving something back to our communities," Congressman Sestak. "The Boy Scouts of America, specifically through the Eagle Scout Award program, helps our most exceptional young men to develop those characteristics within themselves that can make them great and compassionate leaders in this country. David Motsek, at the age of 15, has already demonstrated a remarkable capacity to make a difference in his community and to lead efforts to give something back to those who have served this nation. I join with his family and the entire Boy Scouts of America community in congratulating David on this extraordinary achievement."

David, a junior and Honor Roll student at Spring-Ford High School, collected items for wounded and deployed soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan to complete his Eagle Service project. He was able to present more than 4,100 items, as well as monetary donations, to Give2theTroops. The Pennsylvania Director of this organization indicated that David's contributions were the largest in the state.

According to the Boy Scouts of America, the fact that a boy is an Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance, not only in Scouting but also as he enters higher education, business or industry, and community service. The award is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. Only about 5 percent of all boys who join Boy Scout troops earn the Eagle Scout rank. Approximately 1.7 million Boy Scouts have earned the rank since 1912. The goals of Scouting—citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness—remain important for all Scouts, whether or not they attain the Eagle Scout rank.

"To make it to the rank of Eagle Scout, a young man must learn and he must be tested in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills," the Congressman said. "I am proud to stand with him and to thank him for all he has done for our communities and our nation."

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from

Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.